



CITY OF MORGAN HILL

17555 PEAK AVENUE MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA 95037

MH Community & Cultural Center
17000 Monterey Road
Machado Room
Morgan Hill, California

Chairperson:	Amy Whelan
Vice Chair:	Jonathan Brusco
Commission Member:	Murv Little
Commission Member:	Pamala Meador
Commission Member:	Susan Brazelton
Commission Member:	Tim Hennessey
Commission Member:	Vacant

LIBRARY, CULTURE AND ARTS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES – February 3, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Whelan at 9:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Brusco and Hennessey were absent.

DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA

Posted Per Government Code 54954.2

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment: (1) Mayor Steve Tate discussed the possibility of a mural project to commemorate the life of a Morgan Hill teen who died in a gang-related crime. The idea was brought to the Mayor by the teen's father, who expressed support from other members of the community. LCAC will explore the project in more depth at the next regular LCAC meeting in March

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Meador motioned with Commissioner Little seconding the motion. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

1. GALLERY MORGAN HILL

Team reviewed drafted letter of recommendation to city council regarding the possibility of subsidized space in downtown for an arts consortium. Recommendation was discussed and edited. Final draft will be reviewed at next regular LCAC meeting. See attached draft.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE COMMISSION INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS:

Note: in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a), there shall be no discussion, debate and/or action taken on any request other than providing direction to staff to place the matter of business on a future agenda.

ADJOURNMENT to the next monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on March 13, 2012, Morgan Hill Library, 660 West Main Avenue, Morgan Hill. Motion to adjourn and seconded.

MINUTES RECORDED AND PREPARED BY: LCAC Commissioner Amy Whelan

Dear Mayor Tate and Morgan Hill City Council:

The Library, Culture, and Arts Commission (LCAC) has been approached by Gallery Morgan Hill, a local artists' organization, regarding opening an art gallery and visual arts center in Morgan Hill's downtown area. The purpose of our recommendation is to express LCAC's strong support for such an opportunity. It is the LCAC's request that the City consider supporting Gallery Morgan Hill as it works to secure appropriate, available, community space, preferably space with below market value rental terms.

It is LCAC's view that a cooperative art gallery located in downtown can enhance the civic status of Morgan Hill and that enhancement offsets a reduction in space rent granted to the Gallery Morgan Hill. Please see the attached component of a Princeton University study that lends support to the belief of art's positive impact on a community.

Gallery Morgan Hill's business plan calls for not only showing of local artist's work, but also classes, visiting artists, workshops, events, student exhibitions and other cultural activities to significantly enhance the cultural and artistic experience for Morgan Hill residents and visitors. The group's hours of operation would be consistent with other events and activities within downtown to greatly enhance the event and/or experience for the general public.

Gallery Morgan Hill consists of artists who already hold a long term commitment with LCAC, Morgan Hill's artistic culture, the requirements of supporting community growth whenever possible. The group also includes many members of the Valle del Sur Artist Guild, a group that has shown a significant commitment to art, culture, and civic pride in and around Morgan Hill.

Lack of City support would severely limit Gallery Morgan Hill's efforts and; ultimately opportunities available to the public.

The Library Culture and Arts Commission respectfully request your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amy Whelan
Library, Culture and Arts Commission